

Appl. No. : 09/471,510
Filed : December 23, 1999

12. (Amended) A method of recognizing pulses within a plethysmograph waveform resulting from light attenuated by body tissue with pulsing blood comprising the steps of:

identifying a plurality of potential pulses in said waveform; and comparing said potential pulses to a physiological pulse model to derive at least one physiologically acceptable pulse.

13. (Amended) The method of Claim 12 comprising the further step of generating statistics for said at least one acceptable pulse.

14. (Amended) The method of Claim 13 wherein said generating step comprises the steps of:

determining a total period of said at least one acceptable pulse;
calculating the ratio of said total period to a duration of said waveform to derive pulse density.

17. (Amended) The pulse recognition processor of Claim 16 further comprising a pulse statistics subprocessor means for determining cumulative pulse characteristics from said pulse output.

REMARKS

The July 2, 2001 Office Action was based upon pending Claims 1-17. This Amendment amends Claims 1, 12, 13, 14 and 17. Thus, after entry of this Amendment, Claims 1-17 are pending. In view of the amendments and the following comments, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1-17.

The specific changes to the amended claims are shown on a separate set of pages attached hereto and entitled **VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**, which follows the signature page of this Amendment. On this set of pages, the insertions are underlined while the deletions are struck through.